

Please replace the first full paragraph on page 13 with the following paragraph:

a2 On the other hand, light transmitted through the prisms 16a, and 16b passes along the observation light path 17b is incident on an optical element 22, and is reflected by the optical element 22. Light reflected by the optical element 22 is focused on a primary focal plane 29e. A photo mask 30 and a scale glass can be inserted into the primary focal plane 29e. The photo mask 30, for example, a glass having a reticle to make sure of the center of an image area imaged on a monitor of the TV camera, is for checking the image area. The scale glass is for checking a size of an image imaged on the monitor of the TV camera.

Please replace the second full paragraph on page 15 with the following paragraph:

a3 A typical inverted microscope includes a photo mask 30 attached to the imaging port disposed in the observation optical path 17b, or a scale glass as explained in connection with the first embodiment. Either the photo mask 30 or the scale glass can be inserted into the observation optical path 17b to be disposed in the focal plane, which is either the primary focal plane and or the secondary focal plane. In this way, an image of the sample 9, which overlaps the photo mask 30 or the scale glass, can be seen by the eye. In this case, checking of the image area of the camera is done indirectly by using the photo mask 30. Therefore, it is necessary that the center of the optical axis of the camera is aligned with the center of the photo mask 30. Also, the camera must be attached so that the image plane of the camera is placed at a focal plane of the imaging optical path 17a.

Please replace the last paragraph starting on page 17 with the following paragraph:

a4 First of all, the photo mask 30 is located at a focal plane, the second focal plane 29e', of the ocular lens 27. Then, the sample 9 is put on the stage 8. A magnified image of sample 9 is observed by using the ocular lens 27b, and then the magnified image of the sample 9 is focused by using the focusing handle so that the magnified image and the photo mask 30 can be observed clearly at once. Next, a position of the sample 9 is adjusted by moving the stage 8 so that a certain position of the magnified image of the sample 9 accords with a central portion of the photo mask 30 on the magnified image observed by the researcher.

Please replace the second full paragraph beginning on page 18 with the following paragraph:

a5 By carrying out above adjustment, the image plane of the camera is aligned with the photo mask 30. In addition, light incident of the photo mask 30 is focused on the photo mask